

We are amazed by their stories and humbled by the immense burdens they have shouldered. Their dedication, and their families' sacrifices are an inspiration, and our country owes them a debt of gratitude for their patriotic service.

AFGHAN NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, we have embarked on a new course in Afghanistan. The plan has 21,000 troops and trainers engaged primarily in clearing the Taliban in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. We know from counterinsurgency doctrine that we must now hold the areas that have been cleared.

I speak today on the need for expanding the Afghan National Army and Police. They must do the holding of those areas taken by our forces so that we can build a capable, accountable, and effective Afghan Government. The August 20 elections will be a crucial milestone in Afghanistan's democratic development, and the international community stands with the Afghan people as they exercise their freedom to cast votes at more than 7,000 polling stations.

Safeguarding the election is a test for the Afghan security forces, which are leading efforts to secure the polling stations per the plans of the Afghanistan Elections Commission. At the same time, the United States and other international partners will continue to support Afghan forces. We have increased troop levels this summer, in part, to help the Afghan National Army and Police prepare for the election.

As we send an additional 21,000 troops and trainers and hundreds of civilians into Afghanistan, we must do everything in our power to protect these brave men and women in a hostile environment. We must be effective and efficient in clearing and holding against insurgents. And we must ensure we have the necessary civilian resources to build a secure and stable environment, in which Afghans can sustain rule of law and promote good governance.

These goals are critical to our shared counterinsurgency mission. Success will not be easy or without a great cost or burden. It will continue to require patience, determination, and an enduring American commitment.

As GEN Stanley McChrystal affirmed when he assumed command of American and International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF, troops in Afghanistan, "the Afghan people are at the center of our mission. In reality, they are the mission. We must protect them from violence, whatever its nature." The Afghan people are at the heart of our operations, and the first principle of protecting the population in counterinsurgency is building a strong indigenous security force that can assume control and take the lead.

Our military, civilian, and political leadership agree that enhancing the ca-

capacity and capability of the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police is key to an eventual U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. Before we move in this direction, however, we must consider what additional resources are required to help the ANA and ANP become self-sufficient.

Current estimates indicate the Afghan Army is one fourth of the size of the Iraqi Army, where the ongoing insurgency now pales in comparison to Taliban-led violence in Afghanistan. This is woefully inadequate if we hope to meet Afghanistan's short-term and long-term security requirements. The same can be said for the Afghan police, which provides the essential services of border security, law enforcement, coordinating counternarcotics, and serving as a paramilitary force.

The Afghan National Army and Police must work in tandem on counterinsurgency—one cannot succeed without the other—with the army "clearing" the land of insurgents, and the police "holding" to ensure stability. Progress in "building" economic development and governance cannot be sustained until the security forces succeed in their mission.

Current plans to expand the Afghan National Army to 135,000 and the Afghan National Police to 80,000 by 2011 represent a positive step in the right direction but still fall short of the necessary requirements. These numbers are insufficient for the Afghans to independently maintain security and establish rule of law in the long-run, and therefore should be considered critical milestones, but not ceilings, for the training mission.

According to the Army/Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Manual drafted by General Petraeus in 2006, the requisite number of security forces should not be defined by the number of insurgents. Rather, the size of host nation security forces should be commensurate with the size of the population. This closely parallels the methodology used to calculate the adequate size for peace-keeping operations, which are determined by the number of inhabitants. Counterinsurgency doctrine, as delineated by General Petraeus, recommends a minimum target ratio of 20 counterinsurgents for every 1,000 residents.

According to this ratio, in order to secure Afghanistan—a country of more than 33 million—a minimum of 600,000 security forces are needed, which includes the army and police. Current targets for the ANA and ANP barely reach 40 percent of this minimum requirement. It is clear that these numbers should be increased, and this is why I support doubling the target number for the ANA from 135,000 to 250,000, and increasing the ANP from 80,000 to 150,000.

As Secretary Gates has outlined, we must better prepare to fight the wars we are in, and recognize that that irregular warfare is not just a short-term challenge. Rather, it is a long-term re-

ality that requires a realignment of both military strategy and spending. And as we continue to engage in counterinsurgency, we must recognize those elements of our strategy which are essential to our mission. Chief among them remains building the indigenous capacity of the host nation security forces.

It is in this regard that I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting an increase in the size of the Afghan national security forces. While this may require additional trainers, troops, and resources in the short run, it is the only way to ensure the long-run stability of Afghanistan.

WYOMING'S WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I wish today to talk about a special group of people who live and work with us, side by side in our hometowns across America. The terrible days of the Second World War produced an entire generation of men and women who answered the call to duty to defend freedom and defeat tyranny in far off lands across both oceans. They left their homes and families, endured great trials, and gave so much of themselves for so many of us in the most difficult of circumstances.

These brave men and women served in our Nation's darkest hour. And then they came back home. They went back to work, to school, bought homes, raised families, and continued to build our Nation. Today they are our friends and neighbors, our parents and grandparents, our fellow Americans. And we owe them such a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Mr. President, on August 15, 2009, the State of Wyoming will dedicate its World War II Memorial at the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Park in Cody, WY. And I am honored to be here on the floor of the Senate to personally give thanks to the many men and women and their families who made such great sacrifices on our behalf during the terrible days of World War II.

The memorial being dedicated and the ceremony itself required a major commitment on the part of those who worked to successfully complete the project. This includes veterans, their families, friends, admirers, and all of the people of Wyoming whose hard work and generous contributions made this memorial possible.

The Wyoming World War II Memorial is a fitting tribute to all those of the Greatest Generation who gave so much for our country. It is because of them that we all live our lives in freedom and are able to exercise the rights guaranteed to us in our Constitution every day. We are the grateful beneficiaries of their sacrifices.

My father was a veteran of World War II. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge. My wife Bobbi's father was in both World War II and Korea. My dad always told me that I should thank